

## CLAIMS

- 1 1. An apparatus comprising:  
2 at least one processor;  
3 a memory coupled to the at least one processor;  
4 a plurality of logical partitions defined on the apparatus;  
5 an I/O reconfiguration mechanism that reconfigures identified I/O; and  
6 a logical partition suspend/resume mechanism that suspends at least one of the  
7 plurality of logical partitions before the I/O reconfiguration mechanism reconfigures the  
8 identified I/O, and that resumes all suspended logical partitions after the I/O  
9 reconfiguration mechanism reconfigures the identified I/O.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the logical partition suspend/resume mechanism  
2 suspends all of the plurality of logical partitions.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the logical partition suspend/resume mechanism  
2 suspends only the logical partitions that own the identified I/O.

- 1     4.     An apparatus comprising:  
2             at least one processor;  
3             a memory coupled to the at least one processor;  
4             a plurality of logical partitions defined on the apparatus; and  
5             a partition manager residing in the memory and executed by the at least one  
6 processor, the partition manager performing the steps of:  
7             (1) detecting when identified I/O requires reconfiguration;  
8             (2) suspending at least one of the plurality of logical partitions;  
9             (3) reconfiguring the identified I/O; and  
10            (4) resuming all logical partitions suspended in step (2).

1    5.    An apparatus comprising:  
2            at least one processor;  
3            a memory coupled to the at least one processor;  
4            a plurality of logical partitions defined on the apparatus;  
5            a partition manager residing in the memory and executed by the at least one  
6 processor, the partition manager performing the steps of:  
7            (1) quiescing identified I/O;  
8            (2) suspending at least one of the plurality of logical partitions that owns at  
9            least a portion of the identified I/O;  
10           (3) reconfiguring the identified I/O;  
11           (4) enabling the reconfigured identified I/O; and  
12           (5) resuming all logical partitions suspended in step (2).

1 6. A computer-implemented method for reconfiguring identified I/O in a computer  
2 system that includes a plurality of logical partitions, the method comprising the steps of:  
3 (1) suspending at least one of the plurality of logical partitions;  
4 (2) reconfiguring the identified I/O; and  
5 (3) resuming all logical partitions suspended in step (1).

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein step (1) comprises the step of suspending all of  
2 the plurality of logical partitions.

1 8. The method of claim 6 wherein step (1) comprises the step of suspending only the  
2 logical partitions that own the identified I/O.

- 1 9. A computer-implemented method for reconfiguring identified I/O in a computer  
2 system that includes a plurality of logical partitions, the method comprising the steps of:  
3 (1) detecting when the identified I/O requires reconfiguration;  
4 (2) suspending at least one of the plurality of logical partitions;  
5 (3) reconfiguring the identified I/O; and  
6 (4) resuming all logical partitions suspended in step (2).

1    10.    A computer-implemented method for reconfiguring identified I/O in a computer  
2    system that includes a plurality of logical partitions, the method comprising the steps of:  
3            (1) quiescing identified I/O;  
4            (2) suspending at least one of the plurality of logical partitions that owns at least a  
5    portion of the identified I/O;  
6            (3) reconfiguring the identified I/O;  
7            (4) enabling the reconfigured identified I/O; and  
8            (5) resuming all logical partitions suspended in step (2).

- 1 11. A program product comprising:  
2 (A) a logical partition suspend/resume mechanism that suspends at least one of a  
3 plurality of logical partitions before identified I/O is reconfigured, the logical partition  
4 suspend/resume mechanism resuming all suspended logical partitions after the identified  
5 I/O is reconfigured; and  
6 (B) computer readable signal bearing media bearing the logical partition  
7 suspend/resume mechanism.
- 1 12. The program product of claim 11 wherein the signal bearing media comprises  
2 recordable media.
- 1 13. The program product of claim 11 wherein the signal bearing media comprises  
2 transmission media.
- 1 14. The program product of claim 11 wherein the logical partition suspend/resume  
2 mechanism suspends all of the plurality of logical partitions.
- 1 15. The program product of claim 11 wherein the logical partition suspend/resume  
2 mechanism suspends only the logical partitions that own the identified I/O.

1 16. A program product comprising:  
2 (A) a partition manager that performs the steps of:  
3 (1) detecting when identified I/O requires reconfiguration;  
4 (2) suspending at least one of a plurality of logical partitions;  
5 (3) reconfiguring the identified I/O; and  
6 (4) resuming all logical partitions suspended in step (2); and  
7 (B) computer readable signal bearing media bearing the partition manager.

1 17. The program product of claim 16 wherein the signal bearing media comprises  
2 recordable media.

1 18. The program product of claim 16 wherein the signal bearing media comprises  
2 transmission media.



- 1 19. A program product comprising:  
2 (A) a partition manager that performs the steps of:  
3 (1) quiescing identified I/O;  
4 (2) suspending at least one of a plurality of logical partitions that owns at  
5 least a portion of the identified I/O;  
6 (3) reconfiguring the identified I/O;  
7 (4) enabling the reconfigured identified I/O; and  
8 (5) resuming all logical partitions suspended in step (2); and  
9 (B) computer readable signal bearing media bearing the partition manager.
- 1 20. The program product of claim 19 wherein the signal bearing media comprises  
2 recordable media.
- 1 21. The program product of claim 19 wherein the signal bearing media comprises  
2 transmission media.

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